

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: CRAWFORD                      Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned  
Serial No.: 10/734,469                      Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
Filed: December 12, 2003                      Docket: KIMBALL.1002  
For: ALTERNATIVE METHOD FOR SEALING ALL METAL VACUUM JOINTS

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-entitled matter, Applicant hereby attaches U.S. Patent Office Form PTO-1449 including copies of the references listed thereon. The references were originally cited in the parent application, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,678,937. The claims in the present application are believed to be patentably distinguishable over these references.

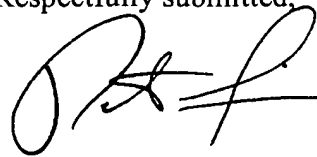
This information disclosure statement is being made pursuant to the duty of disclosure imposed by law and formulated in 37 CFR 1.56(a). No representation is made that the information thus disclosed in fact constitutes prior art or that it is the closest prior art, inasmuch as 37 CFR 1.56(a) relies on a materiality concept which depends on subjectivity.

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In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account No. 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,



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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

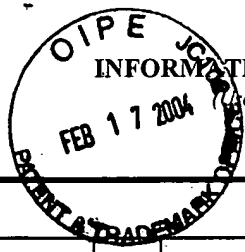
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 13, 2004 at Manchester, New Hampshire.

By: Kristine Stevens

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)

KIMBALL.1002

Application Number

10/734,469

Applicant(s)

CRAWFORD

Filing Date

December 12, 2003

Group Art Unit

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *EXAMINER<br>INITIAL | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE     | NAME            | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE<br>IF APPROPRIATE |
|----------------------|-----|-----------------|----------|-----------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
|                      |     | 3,208,758       | 09/28/65 | Carlson, et al. | 277   | 171      | 10/11/61                      |
|                      |     | 4,538,503       | 9/3/85   | Hachiro         | 91    | 376 R    | 5/13/83                       |
|                      |     | 5,593,123       | 1/14/97  | Crawford        | 248   | 231.21   | 3/7/95                        |
|                      |     | 5,671,956       | 9/30/97  | Crawford        | 285   | 328      | 3/7/96                        |
|                      |     | 5,678,607       | 10/21/97 | Krywitsky       | 138   | 89       | 1/6/95                        |
|                      |     | 6,196,763       | 3/6/01   | Obermeyer       | 405   | 91       | 1/16/98                       |
|                      |     |                 |          |                 |       |          |                               |
|                      |     |                 |          |                 |       |          |                               |
|                      |     |                 |          |                 |       |          |                               |
|                      |     |                 |          |                 |       |          |                               |
|                      |     |                 |          |                 |       |          |                               |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|  | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | Translation |    |
|--|-----|-----------------|------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
|  |     |                 |      |         |       |          | YES         | NO |
|  |     |                 |      |         |       |          |             |    |
|  |     |                 |      |         |       |          |             |    |
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|  |     |                 |      |         |       |          |             |    |
|  |     |                 |      |         |       |          |             |    |

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.